



1761

IR 6625

**In the United States Patent and Trademark Office**

Re the application of: Pope, et al.

Serial No.: 09/834,572

Examiner: Bhat, Nina NMN

Filed: April 13, 2001

Group: 1761

For: Composition, Process and Apparatus

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Dear Sir:

**Reply under 37 CFR 1.111**

This is in response to the Official Action mailed July 21, 2003.

**Remarks**

Claims 1 to 7 are in this case. The claims are rejected under 35 USC 103, obviousness, in view of Paluch over Repholz.

The claims of this invention are broadly directed to preparing a core in shell product utilizing a specific die head as claimed in this application. Independent claim 1 specifies two specific elements not present in the prior art combination. Firstly, there is a shell flow control regulator which impinges upon the shell flow. Secondly, there is a core inlet tube which is located past the shell flow control regulator with its orifice in the shell flow. Claims 2 through 5 specifies new elements or narrows other elements already in claim 1. Independent claim 6 specifies the core inlet tube, its positioning such that the velocity of the shell is closely matched to the velocity of the core. Claim 7 is directed to a method of processing utilizing the die head of claim 1.